have increased, total population numbers appear to have decreased — opposite indicators of a healthy environment. Further study into landscape issues and species abundance is needed for developing good landscape management strategies to conserve biological resources. Locally, people can respond in ways that are economically better for themselves and ecologically friendlier for birds. First, we can preserve and manage forest, prairies, and other natural regions. Doing so is more financially efficient than managing manicured lawns and shrubs, because it eliminates the need for the upkeep of cutting, pruning and fertilizing. Second, when a habitat is altered, birds considered pest species may occur or increase, which has negative implications, both ecologically and economically.

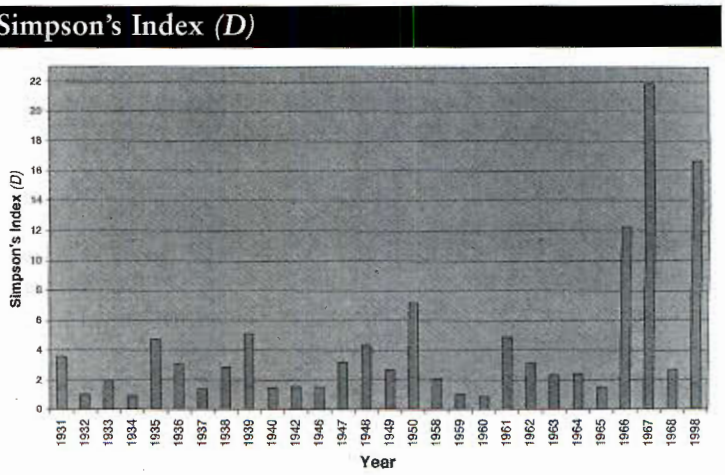

Figure 4. *Simpson's Index* (D) *of community heterogeneity in the study area each year. A larger D value represents greater heterogeneity.*

Continued analysis of past and present data is extremely important as the need for environmental monitoring has reached a pinnacle. Our attempt to reinitiate bird banding at Benedictine University provided important insight into the local status of several avian species and the critical importance of the remaining campus forest. Careful management of the area is critical to conserve the biodiversity that is found there; unfortunately, the field and most of the woods surrounding the cemetery at the time of our study have since been destroyed for development. We recommend further banding on campus to continue monitoring the impact of these changes on the local avian community and the area's overall environmental health.

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